1	2	3	4
		2001 (7 years and above)	
Rural	70.70	46.13	58.74
Urban	86.27	72.86	79.92
TOTAL:	75.26	53.67	64.84

Source: Census of India

(c) Funds under various Schemes/Programmes of the Ministry are not allocated on rural-urban basis.

Software in curriculum framework and research

2784. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce free software in both curriculum framework and research at UGC level; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Computer operator training programme

†2785. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been allocated to the State Governments, especially to Delhi Government for short term computer operator training under the Continuing Education Programme (Satat Shiksha Yojana) under the World Bank Project during the last three years; and

(b) the number of candidates from rural areas who have been given such training under the said project, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

New university in Darjeeling

†2786. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to open a new university in Darjeeling;

(b) if so, by when it is expected to be opened; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No proposal regarding setting up of a new Central University in Darjeeling is, presently, under consideration of the Government. However, subject to approval by Parliament, a Central Tribal University proposed to be established with its headquarters at Amarkantak shall have powers to establish such number of its regional centres, *viz.* off-campuses constituted by the University and functioning as part of the University, in various tribal areas of the country as are, in the opinion of the University, necessary for furtherance of its objects. Resources permitting, during the Eleventh Plan, the proposed University could, thus, establish its off-campus at Darjeeling.

Quality in higher education

†2787. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have aceepted the report of the National Knowledge Commission for bringing quality in higher education and for bringing skill education and research of international standard;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the C .mission has made many important recommendations and Government have taken necessary decisions for their implementation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission are in the public domain for wider debate among all stakeholders.

Disinterest of students in basic science

†2788. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the students in the country are becoming disinterested in studying basic science;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the level of students and research scholars studying science and technology is no longer upto the global standards from quality point of view;

(c) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation is not able to get the required and prescribed number of brilliant students through competitive examination conducted every year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith Government's reaction thereto?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.